The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D.C. 20505

10 June 1980

Dear Herman,

Thanks for your letter of May 23rd concerning [   ] interest   ST|AT
in writing a doctoral dissertation on the role of National Intelligence
Estimates in national security decision-making.

We certainly want to do all we can to encourage serious students to
address the role of intelligence in the national security arena--at least
in part because of the benefit to be gained from documenting our contribution.
STAT   On the other hand, [   ] has chosen a particularly difficult subject
on which to do unclassified research. Indeed, to prepare a dissertation
on the role of NIEs (or of intelligence analysis in any form) in national
security decision-making would almost require access to classified and often
very sensitive documents not only at CIA but also at the White House and
other departments of government. Such access is virtually impossible to
obtain. I am afraid that without such access any study that [   ]   ST|AT
might do could only scratch the surface and would likely not be of disserta-
tion quality.

If in the light of this discouraging news [   ] still wishes to   ST|AT
write his dissertation on NIEs, we will try to help him to the extent we
properly can. On the other hand, perhaps he would prefer to look at some
other aspects of intelligence. There are other fields where the impediments
are less. We have a Center for the Study of Intelligence which should be
able to provide him some guidance on intelligence-related subjects for
which there is an ample body of unclassified literature upon which he might
draw for his research.

In sum, I think the best course is for [   ] to drop me a note   ST|AT
directly on just what he wants to accomplish and where he thinks we can
help him. I'll be happy to put him in touch with whoever in our organization
can do the most for him under whatever limitations prevail.

Wish I could be more helpful. We need the assistance of people like
STAT   [   ] to look at our work from the outside. It just isn't always
feasible.

With all best wishes.

Yours,

STANSFIELD TURNER

Mr. Herman Wouk

STAT   [   ]